REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter this Preliminary Amendment.

The specification has been amended to include the priority claim and to provide section headings. Claim 1 has been amended to reflect an amendment entered during the International Phase under Article 34. Claims 2-10 have been amended to conform to U.S. practice and to remove multi-dependencies. No new matter is added by these amendments. With these amendments, claims 1-10 are pending.

Applicants urge the Examiner to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at (312) 913-0001 if the Examiner believes that this would expedite prosecution of this application.

> Respectfully submitted, McDonnell Boehnen **Hulbert & Berghoff LLP**

Date: Pec. 5, 2005

by:

Raafat Shaltout

Registration No. 45,092

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

300 South Wacker Drive

Chicago, IL 60606

Telephone: 312-913-0001

Facsimile: 312-913-0002